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## Idaho Transportation Department

### News Release

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Contact:

Nathan Jerke  
Public Information Specialist  
(208) 886-7809  
nathan.jerke@itd.idaho.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **Bridge and roadway maintenance focus of 2014 construction season**

SHOSHONE – As colder weather subsides in the coming weeks, the roadway construction season will begin around the Magic Valley, the Idaho Transportation Department announced. Many sections of the state highway system will once again see orange barrels, flaggers and work crews.

Although the total number of projects in south-central Idaho is reduced from recent years, one theme will remain consistent throughout 2014 – bridge and roadway maintenance. These projects will present major impacts to traffic, but will largely be short in duration.

The majority of the maintenance projects will consist of pavement overlays and will include two areas of I-84 in eastern Cassia County, U.S. 26 between Bliss and the Malad River, U.S. 30 between Buhl and Filer and through the city of Hansen, and Idaho 24 south of Rupert. In addition, there will be about 130 miles of highway receiving chip-seal coats.

Bridge maintenance work will focus on preserving seven structures to increase life expectancy and perform safety upgrades. Bridge locations include the Gridley Bridge over the Snake River near Hagerman, the U.S. 93 Flyover between Twin Falls and Filer, and several locations along I-84.

Other work includes building a turn lane and acceleration lane on Idaho 50 at 3800 East Road south of the Hansen Bridge and installing a traffic signal at the intersection of U.S. 26 and Idaho 46 on the south end of Gooding. In total, the work accounts for about \$30 million of highway improvements.

One of the main projects will actually be completing 2013 work – Timber Way to Big Wood River Bridge on Idaho 75 south of Ketchum. In 2013, the majority of work was completed on the southbound lanes, but winter weather forced a construction shutdown. The project is expected to resume in May, with total project completion this year.

Additional work may be added throughout the summer. Several projects anticipated to take place in 2015 and 2016 have completed the design process and could be built this year if funding is secured.

Throughout the various construction projects, drivers are reminded to be cautious when traveling through construction zones, watch for workers and equipment, and be patient with workers and other drivers.

#### **2014 PROJECT LOCATIONS (\*Currently under construction)**

**I-84** Interchange 245 to Sweetzer Interchange, Cassia County

Interchange 228 to Interchange 245 westbound, Cassia County

**I-86** Salt Lake Interchange to Raft River sealcoat, Cassia County

**U.S. 26** Bliss to Malad River, Gooding County

Jct. Idaho 46 traffic signal, Gooding, Gooding County

**U.S. 30**                Buhl to Filer, Twin Falls County

Fourth Street to 3850 East, Hansen, Twin Falls County

**Idaho 24**             South of Rupert, Minidoka County

**Idaho 50**             Intersection 3800 East Road, Twin Falls County

**\*Idaho 75**           Timber Way to Big Wood River Bridge, Blaine County

**District-wide sealcoats on following routes and mileposts:**

**I-84**                    MP 137-149, 181-194, 201-207

**U.S. 30**                MP 249-261

**U.S. 93**                MP 0-20, 58-66

**Idaho 24**             MP 44-65

**Idaho 75**             MP 74-82, 107-111

**Bridge Deck Preservation**

**I-84**                    \*Heyburn Interchange Bridge, Minidoka County

          Eden Road Overpass, Jerome County

Union Pacific Bridge, East Bliss, Gooding County

Pasadena overpass, Elmore County

**U.S. 30**                Snake River Gridley Bridge, Twin Falls/Gooding County

Twin Falls Main Canal bridges (3), Twin Falls County

**U.S. 93**                Flyover at Pole Line Road, Twin Falls County

**Idaho 74**             Low Line Canal

*Highway construction is one of the key forces pushing Idaho toward continued economic vitality by creating jobs, improving safety and reducing traffic congestion.*

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